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UTILITY	Attorney Docket No.
PATENT APPLICATION	First Inventor or Application Identifier FIRESTONE
TRANSMITTAL	Title System + Method for Collecting Vehicle Fees
(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b))	Express Mail Label No.
ADDITION OF THEFT	Assistant Commissioner for Patents
APPLICATION ELEMENTS See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application content	ADDRESS TO: Box Patent Application
* Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)	
1. (Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)	S:
2. Specification [Total Pages	6. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)
(preferred arrangement set forth below) - Descriptive title of the Invention	a. Computer Readable Copy
- Cross References to Related Applications	
- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D	b. Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)
- Reference to Microfiche Appendix	c. Statement verifying identity of above copies
- Background of the Invention	ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS
- Brief Summary of the Invention	7. Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
- Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)	terms and the second se
- Detailed Description	8. 37 C.F.R.§3.73(b) Statement Power of (when there is an assignee) Attorney
- Claim(s)	9. English Translation Document (if applicable)
- Abstract of the Disclosure	Information Disclosure Coning of IDS
3. Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets	10. Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Citations
4. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages]	1 11. Preliminary Amendment
a. Newly executed (original or copy)	Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R.	(Should be specifically itemized)
b. (for continuation/divisional with Box 16 complet	eled) 13 Statement filed in prior application,
i. DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)	(PTO/SB/09-12) Status still proper and desired
Signed statement attached delei inventor(s) named in the prior app	
see 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1	
" NOTE FOR ITEMS 1 & 15: IN ORDER TO BE ENTITLED TO PAY SMAL FEES, A SMALL ENTITY STATEMENT IS REQUIRED (37 C.F.R. § 1.27).	LI ENTITY
IF ONE FILED IN A PRIOR APPLICATION IS RELIED UPON 137 C.F.R.	
16. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate by	pox, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment:
Continuation Divisional Continuation-	
Prior application information: Examiner_	Group / Art Unit:sclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied
under Box 4b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the acc	companying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by
	portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.
17. CORRESP	PONDENCE ADDRESS
Customer Number or Bar Code Label	or 🖾 Correspondence address below
	No. or Attach bar code label here)
PAUL A. FIRESTON	16
Name	
88 CENTRAL PARK	e west

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2127997018

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Zip Code

Fax

2127997018

State

Telephone

FIRESTORE

十

City

Country

Name (Print/Type)

PAUL

PTO/SB/09 (12-97)

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Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(b))INDEPENDENT INVENTOR	Docket Number (Optional)
Applicant, Patentee, or Identifier: Paul A. Fines tox	se
Application or Patent No.:	
FiledorIssued: 7/10/00	
Title: System AND Method For Collecting V	lehide fees
As a below named inventor, I hereby state that I qualify as an independent inventor for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office described	or as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) d in:
the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.	
the application identified above.	
the patent identified above.	
I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, and am under no obligation ugrant, convey, or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not quaunder 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(d)	alify as an independent inventor ich would not qualify as a small
Each person, concern, or organization to which I have assigned, granted, convey obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the	ed, or licensed or am under an he invention is listed below:
No such person, concern, or organization exists.	
Each such person, concern, or organization is listed below.	
-	
Separate statements are required from each named person, concern, or organization stating their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27) I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any chan entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the emaintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer a	ge in status resulting in loss of arliest of the issue fee or any
	appropriate. (07 01 11 1.20(0))
PAUL A. Freestone	
NAME OF INVENTOR NAME OF INVENTOR	NAME OF INVENTOR
Vaul Consine	
Signature of inventor Signature of inventor S	Signature of inventor
8/10/00	
Date Date	Pate

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Patent Application of

Paul A. Firestone

88 Central Park West

New York, New York 10023

Citizen of the United States of America

SPECIFICATION

TITLE OF INVENTION

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR COLLECTING VEHICLE FEES

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT

Not Applicable

REFERENCE TO A MICROFICHE APPENDIX

Not Applicable

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Federal, state and local road transportation and highway departments have depended in large measure on the use of collected tolls for road maintenance and construction.

The efforts to collect road-use fees at bridges and tunnels in the form of tolls has resulted in traffic back-up at tollbooths with adverse effects to the environment, personal safety, and business enterprise. In municipalities, the parking meter has served as a passive toll taker, but this method of fee collecting has not been fully successful. Evidence of this is the recent, trial innovation of print-out time-parking receipts which are to be placed on a vehicle's dashboard.

Parking meters have proved to have labor intensive costs. Ill-prepared meter readers have often written inaccurate license numbers and street locations. Arguments in face-to-face confrontations between meter readers and motorists is common. Coin box theft and severe damage to meters caused by automobiles and vandals demands expensive repairs and maintenance.

Under the current methods employed by authorized toll collection agencies, a motor vehicle operator must subscribe to a transponder-type fee collection system or queue-up to pay the required fee in cash. Utilization of the "cash-only" process necessitates a toll collector who must complete the collection which involves a time-consuming event adding to delays and traffic congestion and untoward accidents. Transponder- type fee collections have been largely unsuccessful since a majority of motorists do not subscribe to this type of system.

In the matter of parking meters, the motorist has often been unduly punished and the municipality cheated of revenue. False coins put into meters and pilfering, and destruction of coin boxes are serious problems with the unguarded equipment.

Inclement weather may preclude the meter man's/maid's attention to the routine surveillance assigned to them in street parking areas, and often times, hard-pressed, in the hastily written summons, the meter reader may incorrectly cite an erroneous vehicle license number, and location, and the infraction concerning metered parking.

In large municipalities, the capital investment in equipment for towing and the cost for maintenance of a storage area for towed cars added to the needed salaried personnel may make the towing of cars a money-losing proposition. The traffic problems caused by double-parking in certain congested business areas of a municipality and the caravans of huge delivery trucks moving through the streets and parking on both curbsides creates the difficulty of a single passage for traffic. The horde of leviathan trucks create the frenetic and hostile character of urban downtown business areas during daylight hours.

In municipalities, truck owners will receive fee-exemption credits if they utilize city streets during evening hours or can be afforded other incentives for time-sensitive vehicular activity.

Using proposed fixed and mobile scanning devices, this invention aims to construct a new and unique method for collecting road-use fees or tolls from all owners of registered vehicles regardless of the country or state that issued that vehicle's registration.

The invention relates to a method of collecting fees associated with vehicles for road usage wherein every vehicle contains its own unique identification code-similar or in concert with the known vehicle identification number (VIN)- comprised of a number, letter or symbol or combinations thereof.

Vehicle code readers (fixed or mobile) that transfer data to a central agency, or other appropriate means, are placed in selected area: entrances and exits to specified bridges, tunnels and highways. Municipalities will issue hand-held and auto-mounted vehicle-code-readers to police traffic managers who will in their normal course of activity scan designated streets to charge a fee for legal overnight parking, as well as for illegal double parking or standing, identifying the vehicle from its implanted I.D. code. The scanner is equipped to give full readings of date and time, and other relevant data as desired, to be programmed by the motor vehicle department, as well as the local police traffic manager. Traffic accidents can be immediately and easily recorded via the scanner and digital camera, verifying vehicle titles, insurance and the validity of licensed drivers. All these data can be instantly secured from stationery or mobile information capturing devices on moving or fixed I.D. codes.

Trucks and extended limousines can be assessed an additional road-use fee according to the number of axles and the approved laden weight, which incurs wear and tear of roads; and the limos will be assessed extended occupation of road and street space.

Most importantly, no current method provides for a passive, universal road-use system of collection of all vehicles.

The inventor is aware of the following U.S. Patents which show efforts made to solve some of the problems described above: 6,097,292; 6,075,466; 6,010,074; 5,969,641; 5,955,970.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention proposes a new and novel method to collect fees for road use which fund costs for maintenance and construction of all highways, roads and city streets. It proposes a re-design of toll-collection that is to be more equitably shared by owners of all registered vehicles regardless of the place of registration issuance, in the United States, Canada and/or Mexico.

In addition, the current invention provides an instant method for monitoring vehicular regulatory compliance relating to insurance, emissions and exhaust, registration and title matters.

The instant invention relates to a cost-effective method of collecting vehicular related fees different from any current method, using a passive identification system similar to the UPC coding found in food and department stores, or the magnetic strip of a plastic credit card.

The office that issued vehicle registration will issue the vehicle's unique I.D. code and charge an appropriate amount to be held in an account against any and all road-usage charges and legal infractions associated with that vehicle's I.D. A periodic report containing identifications of time, place and fee charges can be sent to the title owner of the respective vehicle, and will note the account balance. If the title owner does not comply with the motor vehicle request, the standard delinquent response would follow.

All new vehicle manufacture will include the factory-installed I.D. codes in prescribed positions on the vehicle body.

According to the invention, each vehicle can be assigned a unique I.D. like a debit or credit card. The functioning of the scanner can be verified and/or modified at will by the appropriate personnel. It serves an important function beyond toll-taking. It will be programmed by the proper agencies to identify any vehicle that is unregistered, uninspected from emission control, operating without insurance, or in violation of any other conditions including the non-payment of charges or fees.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The features of the present method which are believed to be novel are set forth by description within this application and may best be understood with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

- FIG. 1 is a vehicle with attached or implanted I.D. codes provided by the motor vehicle registration office. It is implanted or aligned in multiple locations of the vehicle, to be designated by the appropriate authorities.
- FIG. 2 is a model of a road-side, standing scanner to be aligned at desired locations to identify vehicle's utilization of bridges, tunnels, highways and city streets.
- FIG. 3 is a suggested "manned" scooter that is easily maneuverable in traffic equipped with the I.D. scanners, digital cameras or other code information capturing devices.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

A system and method for collecting vehicle fees wherein one or more unique I.D. code means, FIG. 1, 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 are aligned so that the unique information can be easily captured and/or recorded by a scanning or other type of information collecting device, as in FIG. 2. The information capturing device 1, FIG. 2, is strategically placed. It may also be in a fixed or mobile position 2.

FIG. 3 is a suggested use of the instant invention wherein a scooter 1 is fixed with I.D. code capturing equipment 2, wherein the captured data is disseminated by scooter equipment or communicated by known means to a central database for review.

CLAIMS

1.

I claim as my invention:

one or more I.D. code identifiers are placed on and/or about a vehicle, said identifiers corresponding to a series of unique characteristics associated with the vehicle and one or more desired set of characteristics and/or data, wherein, each I.D. may be identified for data retrieval and/or recording and/ or storaging

A method for collecting vehicular related fees wherein:

when positioned in proximity to I.D. readers (or code readers), wherein I.D (code) readers may be aligned to track and/or trace a variety of information relative to the existence of one of more identifiers wherein said I.D (code) readers include the collection of desired data relative to the proximity of identifiers to identifier

readers (code readers).

- 2. A method and system for collecting road-use fees, comprising:

 one or more passive signaling devices aligned to a vehicle so as to identify the

 road-use fee for such a vehicle, said signaling device to include a unique numeric

 or alpha numeric, or other unique identifying feature, or code, associated with the

 registered owner of the vehicle, said passive signaling devices positioned in

 desired proximity to record and monitor road-use, said monitors comprising a

 mechanism capable of recording and/or otherwise documenting the existence,

 proximity, duration, and/or other desired monitoring of events, from a desired

 position, the system of which results in the monitoring and processing of the data.
- 3. A system and method for collecting vehicle fees wherein:

 vehicles are aligned with readable identification means (passive or active) while
 said vehicles are moving or still;
 wherein, capturing means are aligned to track and process the unique I.D. means
 within a proximity and/or condition desired to be monitored;
 wherein, the collected information provides a mechanism to allow the charging of
 vehicle related road-use fees as desired.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention proposes a new and novel method to collect fees (or tolls) for road-usage and to make toll-booths unnecessary and obsolete. Monies thus collected by this invention can be used for maintenance and construction of all highways, bridges, tunnels, roads and city streets. The invention re-designs the method of toll-collection which insures a more equitable sharing by all owners of vehicles who use these roads under a variety of conditions.

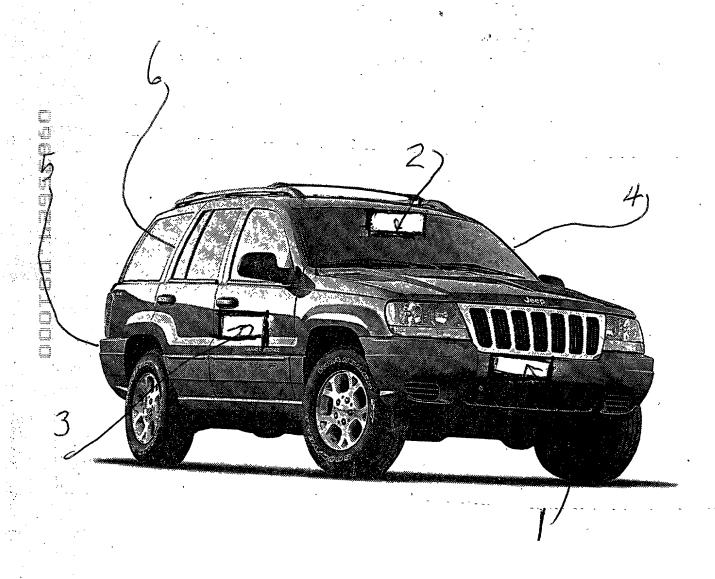


Fig. 1

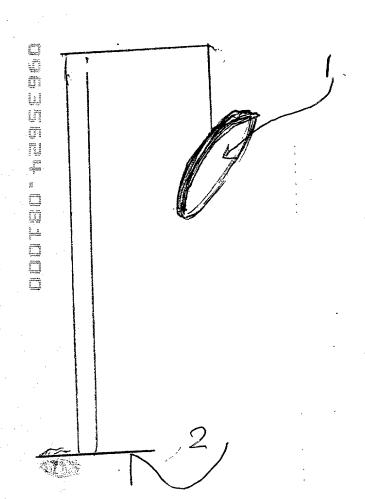


FIG. 2



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DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63)		First Named Inventor	Paul A Firestone			
		COMPLETE IF KNOWN				
		Application Number	/			
☑ Declaration	1000 - 1 11 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Filing Date				
	Submitted after Initial	Group Art Unit				
	Examiner Name					

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:								
My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.								
I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:								
System AND Method for Collecting Vehicle Fees								
the specification of which is attached hereto	(Title	e of the Invention)						
OR								
was filed on (MM/DD)(YYYY)	as United	d States Applicat	ion Number or	PCT International			
Application Number	and w	as amended on (MM/DD/Y)	YYY)		(if applicable).			
I hereby state that I have rev amended by any amendmen	viewed and understand the	contents of the above ident	tified specificatio	n, including the	claims, as			
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I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.								
Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified C	opy Attached? NO			
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☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:								
I hereby claim the benefit un Application Number(s			application(s) lis	ted below.				
Application Number(s	5) Filing Date	e (MM/DD/YYYY)	Additio	nal provision				

[Page 1 of 2]
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DEC	<u>:LA</u>	RATION -	<u> – Utilit</u>	y or l	Desig	n Pate	ent /	App	licati	on	
I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.											
U.S	S. Par	ent Application or Number	PCT Parent	t		Filing Date D/YYYY)			nt Patent if applica		
Additional U.S. or PCT international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.											
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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.											
Name of Sol	le or F	First Inventor:			A petiti	ion has been	filed for	r this un	signed inve	entor	
	ren Nar 7ù L	ne (first and middle [if	anyi)		Family Name or Surname						
Inventor's	74 C	_ H .	70		Firestone				[, i		
Signature		Jane C		us.	In	<u>د</u> ۲ ,,			Date	8/10/00	
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Additional in	nvento	rs are being named or	n thesup	plementa	l Additional	Inventor(s) s	sheet(s)	PTO/SE	B/02A attac	hed hereto	

To the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks:

Your petitioner, Paul A. Firestone, citizen of the United States of America, and resident of New York, New York, whose post office address is 88 Central Park West, New York, New York 10023, respectively prays that the accompanying:

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

(and Declaration) be fully considered and approved, and that letters patent may be granted for the SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR COLLECTING VEHICLE FEES as set forth in the following specification:

FIG. 1 is a front view illustrating the novel SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR COLLECTING VEHICLE FEES.

What is claimed:

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR COLLECTING VEHICLE FEES

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Paul A. Firestone

Group Art Unit:

Serial Number:

Examiner:

Filed:

August 10, 2000

For:

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR COLLECTING VEHICLE FEES

Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

Sir:

I respectfully request that my patent application for a SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR COLLECTING VEHICLE FEES be made special as the application puts forth that:

I am over the age of 65 (birthdate: August 14, 1922);

Environmental quality will be enhanced; and,

Energy savings will result.

Attached is a Declaration in Support of this Petition to Make Special.

Very Respectfully,

Paul A. Firestone 88 Central Park West

New York, New York 10023

212-799-7018 tel/fax

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Paul A. Firestone

Filed:

August 10, 2000

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR COLLECTING VEHICLE FEES

DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

1. I am over the age of 65 (birthdate: August 14, 1922)

2. Environmental quality will be enhanced

3. Energy savings will result.

In support of the accompanying Petition to Make Special, petitioner-applicant declares:

- 1. I am the applicant in the above referenced patent application and am over the age of 65.
- 2. The use of the instant invention will enhance the quality of the environment as the use of said method will result in less vehicular movement which will lessen the depletion of natural resources and reduce toxic vehicle emissions which will result in the heightened quality of air and water.
- 3. Said invention will result in energy savings, mostly fossil fuels, as the instant device and method results in a reduction of toxic tailpipe emissions from motor vehicles
- 4. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A. Firestone 8/10/00

212-799-7018 tel/fax

SEQUENCE LISTING

Not Applicable